



Bow River

## TROUTFITTERS

### LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CITY RIVER ACCESS STRATEGY

Bow River Troutfitters Ltd.  
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To: Calgary Community and Protective Services Committee:

Bow River Troutfitters is a specialty fly fishing store and outfitter located in downtown Calgary Alberta. We are very pleased with the proposed additional river access sites identified within the city's river access strategy. We are particularly interested in plans for increased trailered boat launch accesses within city limits.

The current access situation on the Bow River is very limited for local and visiting recreational anglers as well as area outfitter/guides. Increased access means more opportunity to explore the world-renowned Bow river fishery throughout the city. The Bow River is one of the only trophy sport fisheries in the world that flows through a city of over a million people and therefore contributes to what makes Calgary special.

The development of additional trailered-boat accesses will help spread out angling pressure and more well-developed accesses mean increased protection for sensitive riparian zones. Fish Tales strongly supports the proposed development at Refinery Park. Our industry would be seriously impacted if we lost all access between Bend in the Bow and Fish Creek Park- which happened briefly in 2016 with the blocks going in at Graves Landing.

We are also encouraged by the proposal to make the 12th street trailered access a priority. This access will ensure there's a safe takeout above the Bend in the Bow project for drift boats who want to float through downtown. A float through the city core with a chance at trophy-sized trout provides a unique experience for anglers from all over the world.

Finally, we very much look forward to the development of additional trailered-boat accesses between Graves Landing and Ralph Klein/Frenchman's. The area below Fish Creek Park has historically been the most heavily fished by guided and local anglers simply because of access issues. Sites like Douglasdale, Cranston, and Seton will provide anglers with some great opportunities for shorter fishing days. The proposed development of a trailered boat access at the Ralph Klein/Frenchman's site is also long overdue and excellent news for all river users. We are very excited with how quickly the city has moved on this access strategy and look forward to any opportunity to provide additional input. Thank you for the great work to date!

Sincerely,

Aaron Feltham  
General Manager of Bow River Troutfitters

